

NEWTON YOUTH COMMISSION Meeting
September 5, 2012 MINUTES
Location: Newton City Hall Cafeteria

Present: Joe De Vito Chair, Tony Bibbo, Chris Fortunato, Matt Green, Jeff Mace, Stephen Ross, Terence Sack, John Staulo, Robert Staulo, Kirsten Tuohy
Staff: Ruth Hoshino
Guests: Tom Pomeroy, Deb Darcy, Kathy Marchi
Student Interns

The meeting was opened at 7:10 PM and chaired by Joe De Vito with a welcome back greeting after the summer recess.

A vote to accept the minutes of June 13, 2012 was passed.

Treasurer's Report: The budget for FY 2012 operating budget is \$2500. The previously purchased e-CHUG (an interactive web survey that allows students to enter information about their drinking patterns and receive feedback about their use of alcohol) expired over the summer. A vote was passed to purchase a six month subscription at \$487.50. To date, e-CHUG was used 140 times – the goal is to reach 1000 uses. Chris will provide on-going data on the frequency of use.

Message from The Newton Public Schools: The Newton Public Schools is urging Newton citizens to help identify any child living in Newton between ages 3 – 21 with a disability and in need of special education services. Any information about such children can be given to Ruth or to the Newton Public Schools.

Business:

- Mayor's Public Service Internship Program/Youth Summit – scheduled for 10/11/12. Some of the elements of the summit are:
 - Documentary style video of students being interviewed about topics that effect teens
 - Breakout sessions with teens and adults have discussions about teen-related topics – on 9/12/12, there will be a parent/teen focus group meeting to discuss possible summit topics. This meeting will be at the Newton South Consumer Science Department so the conversation can take place while preparing and eating a simple supper.

Chris and the teens were congratulated for initiating the summit idea and doing the work that resulted in the Health and Human Services, The Newton Partnership and Mayor Warren joining in the summit. It was suggested that this work be recorded as it is "historic". It is hope that New TV will record the summit in October.

The group split into two smaller groups so the teen interns could practice facilitating discussions with adults. One group talked about bullying/school climate. One group talked about stress related to performance in academics and sports.

Joe DeVito encouraged the youth commission members to participate in the summit. It would be good to have members there, it would be great if members could volunteer to help facilitate. He thanked everyone for helping work with the students and thanked everyone in advance who will volunteer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM. **The next meeting is Wednesday, October 3, 2012 at 7 PM.**
Respectfully submitted by Ruth Hoshino